

PROMISSORY NOTE

| Principal | Loan Date | Maturity | Loan No | Call / Coll | Account | Officer | Initials |
|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
| \$1,500,000.00 | 10-04-2004 | 10-04-2007 | 20000801489 | 180 / 29 | | *** | |

References in the shaded area are for Lender's use only and do not limit the applicability of this document to any particular loan or item.
Any item above containing "****" has been omitted due to text length limitations.

Borrower: CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY
1410 N CULLEN AVE
EVANSVILLE, IN 47715-2331

Lender: OLD NATIONAL BANK
174 COMMERCIAL LENDING EVANSVILLE MAIN
OFFICE
1 MAIN STREET
PO BOX 1343
EVANSVILLE, IN 47705-9959

Principal Amount: \$1,500,000.00

Interest Rate: 6.000%

Date of Note: October 4, 2004

PROMISE TO PAY. CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY ("Borrower") promises to pay to OLD NATIONAL BANK ("Lender"), or order, in lawful money of the United States of America, the principal amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand & 00/100 Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) or so much as may be outstanding, together with interest at the rate of 6.000% per annum on the unpaid outstanding principal balance of each advance. Interest shall be calculated from the date of each advance until repayment of each advance.

PAYMENT. Borrower will pay this loan on demand. Payment in full is due immediately upon Lender's demand. If no demand is made, Borrower will pay this loan in one payment of all outstanding principal plus all accrued unpaid interest on October 4, 2007. In addition, Borrower will pay regular monthly payments of all accrued unpaid interest due as of each payment date, beginning November 4, 2004, with all subsequent interest payments to be due on the same day of each month after that. Unless otherwise agreed or required by applicable law, payments will be applied first to any accrued unpaid interest; then to principal; then to any unpaid collection costs; and then to any late charges. The annual interest rate for this Note is computed on a 365/360 basis; that is, by applying the ratio of the annual interest rate over a year of 360 days, multiplied by the outstanding principal balance, multiplied by the actual number of days the principal balance is outstanding. Borrower will pay Lender at Lender's address shown above or at such other place as Lender may designate in writing.

PREPAYMENT; MINIMUM INTEREST CHARGE. In any event, even upon full prepayment of this Note, Borrower understands that Lender is entitled to a minimum interest charge of \$95.00. Other than Borrower's obligation to pay any minimum interest charge, Borrower may pay without penalty all or a portion of the amount owed earlier than it is due. Early payments will not, unless agreed to by Lender in writing, relieve Borrower of Borrower's obligation to continue to make payments of accrued unpaid interest. Rather, early payments will reduce the principal balance due. Borrower agrees not to send Lender payments marked "paid in full", "without recourse", or similar language. If Borrower sends such a payment, Lender may accept it without losing any of Lender's rights under this Note, and Borrower will remain obligated to pay any further amount owed to Lender. All written communications concerning disputed amounts, including any check or other payment instrument that indicates that the payment constitutes "payment in full" of the amount owed or that is tendered with other conditions or limitations or as full satisfaction of a disputed amount must be mailed or delivered to: Old National Bank, PO Box 3728 Evansville, IN 47736-3728.

LATE CHARGE. If a payment is 10 days or more late, Borrower will be charged 5.000% of the regularly scheduled payment or \$50.00, whichever is greater.

INTEREST AFTER DEFAULT. Upon default, including failure to pay upon final maturity, Lender, at its option, may, if permitted under applicable law, increase the interest rate on this Note 3.000 percentage points. The interest rate will not exceed the maximum rate permitted by applicable law.

DEFAULT. Each of the following shall constitute an event of default ("Event of Default") under this Note:

Payment Default. Borrower fails to make any payment when due under this Note.

Other Defaults. Borrower fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Note or in any of the related documents or to comply with or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Borrower.

Default in Favor of Third Parties. Borrower or any Grantor defaults under any loan, extension of credit, security agreement, purchase or sales agreement, or any other agreement, in favor of any other creditor or person that may materially affect any of Borrower's property or Borrower's ability to repay this Note or perform Borrower's obligations under this Note or any of the related documents.

False Statements. Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Borrower or on Borrower's behalf under this Note or the related documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

Insolvency. The dissolution or termination of Borrower's existence as a going business, the insolvency of Borrower, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Borrower's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Borrower.

Creditor or Foreclosure Proceedings. Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Borrower or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the loan. This includes a garnishment of any of Borrower's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Borrower as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Borrower gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

Events Affecting Guarantor. Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party of any of the indebtedness or any guarantor, endorser, surety, or accommodation party dies or becomes incompetent, or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any guaranty of the indebtedness evidenced by this Note. In the event of a death, Lender, at its option, may, but shall not be required to, permit the guarantor's estate to assume unconditionally the obligations arising under the guaranty in a manner satisfactory to Lender, and, in doing so, cure any Event of Default.

Change in Ownership. Any change in ownership of twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the common stock of Borrower.

Adverse Change. A material adverse change occurs in Borrower's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of this Note is impaired.

Insecurity. Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

Cure Provisions. If any default, other than a default in payment is curable and if Borrower has not been given a notice of a breach of the same provision of this Note within the preceding twelve (12) months, it may be cured if Borrower, after receiving written notice from Lender demanding cure of such default: (1) cures the default within fifteen (15) days; or (2) if the cure requires more than fifteen (15) days, immediately initiates steps which Lender deems in Lender's sole discretion to be sufficient to cure the default and thereafter continues and completes all reasonable and necessary steps sufficient to produce compliance as soon as reasonably practical.

LENDER'S RIGHTS. Upon default, Lender may declare the entire unpaid principal balance on this Note and all accrued unpaid interest immediately due, and then Borrower will pay that amount. Under all circumstances, the indebtedness will be repaid without relief from any Indiana or other valuation and appraisal laws.

ATTORNEYS' FEES; EXPENSES. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help collect this Note if Borrower does not pay. Borrower will pay Lender that amount. This includes, subject to any limits under applicable law, Lender's attorneys' fees and Lender's legal expenses, whether or not there is a lawsuit, including without limitation all attorneys' fees and legal expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), and appeals. If not prohibited by applicable law, Borrower also will pay any court costs, in addition to all other sums provided by law.

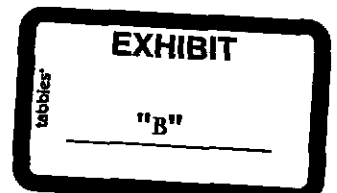
JURY WAIVER. Lender and Borrower hereby waive the right to any jury trial in any action, proceeding, or counterclaim brought by either Lender or Borrower against the other.

GOVERNING LAW. This Note will be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with federal law and the laws of the State of Indiana. This Note has been accepted by Lender in the State of Indiana.

CHOICE OF VENUE. If there is a lawsuit, Borrower agrees upon Lender's request to submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of VANDERBURGH County, State of Indiana.

DISHONORED ITEM FEE. Borrower will pay a fee to Lender of \$20.00 if Borrower makes a payment on Borrower's loan and the check or preauthorized charge with which Borrower pays is later dishonored.

RIGHT OF SETOFF. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Borrower's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Borrower holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Borrower may open in



the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Borrower authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

COLLATERAL. Borrower acknowledges this Note is secured by ALL ACCOUNTS, INVENTORY AND EQUIPMENT AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN SECURITY AGREEMENT OF EVEN DATE HERewith. ALSO, LAND AND PIPELINE LOCATED IN 4 COUNTIES IN ILLINOIS (WHITE, SALINE, EDWARDS, AND GALLATIN) AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN MORTGAGES DATED APRIL 3, 1989.

LINE OF CREDIT. This Note evidences a revolving line of credit. Advances under this Note may be requested either orally or in writing by Borrower or as provided in this paragraph. Lender may, but need not, require that all oral requests be confirmed in writing. All communications, instructions, or directions by telephone or otherwise to Lender are to be directed to Lender's office shown above. The following person currently is authorized to request advances and authorize payments under the line of credit until Lender receives from Borrower, at Lender's address shown above, written notice of revocation of his or her authority: **C A ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT OF CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY.** Borrower agrees to be liable for all sums either: (A) advanced in accordance with the instructions of an authorized person or (B) credited to any of Borrower's accounts with Lender. The unpaid principal balance owing on this Note at any time may be evidenced by endorsements on this Note or by Lender's internal records, including daily computer print-outs. Lender will have no obligation to advance funds under this Note if: (A) Borrower or any guarantor is in default under the terms of this Note or any agreement that Borrower or any guarantor has with Lender, including any agreement made in connection with the signing of this Note; (B) Borrower or any guarantor ceases doing business or is insolvent; (C) any guarantor seeks, claims or otherwise attempts to limit, modify or revoke such guarantor's guarantee of this Note or any other loan with Lender; (D) Borrower has applied funds provided pursuant to this Note for purposes other than those authorized by Lender; or (E) Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

CAPITALIZATION OF LATE CHARGES. Borrower understands and agrees that any late charges imposed under this Note may be added by Lender to the principal amount due under this loan and shall bear interest at the rate then applicable under the terms of this Note.

FINANCIAL RECORDS. In absence of a more specific agreement, requirement or covenant with regard to the preparation and delivery of financial statements and additional information which may be contained in a Business Loan Agreement between Borrower and Lender, Borrower agrees to furnish Lender with, as soon as available, but in no event later than ninety (90) days after the end of each fiscal year of Borrower, Borrower's balance sheet and income statement for the year ended. Borrower further agrees to furnish Lender with, as soon as available, but in no event later than thirty (30) days after direction to do so from Lender, current interim financial statements, lists of assets and liabilities, agings of receivables and payables, inventory schedules, budgets, forecasts, tax returns, and other reports with respect to Borrower's financial condition and business operations. All financial reports required to be provided by Borrower shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applied on a consistent basis, and certified by an authorized officer of Borrower as being true and correct.

Borrower also agrees to cause all guarantors of this Note to furnish financial statements and federal income tax returns within thirty (30) days after direction to do so by the Lender.

If the required financial statements or financial information required by this Note or any Business Loan Agreement between Borrower and Lender is not delivered to Lender within fifteen days after the date required to do so, Borrower's interest rate on this Note shall be increased 2.500 percentage points above the interest rate which would otherwise apply until such time as all of the required financial information is provided to the Lender.

PRIOR NOTE. PROMISSORY NOTE DATED MARCH 29, 2000 IN THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF \$1,500,000.00 EXECUTED BY BORROWER IN FAVOR OF LENDER.

SUCCESSOR INTERESTS. The terms of this Note shall be binding upon Borrower, and upon Borrower's heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of Lender and its successors and assigns.

GENERAL PROVISIONS. This Note is payable on demand. The inclusion of specific default provisions or rights of Lender shall not preclude Lender's right to declare payment of this Note on its demand. Lender may delay or forgo enforcing any of its rights or remedies under this Note without losing them. Borrower and any other person who signs, guarantees or endorses this Note, to the extent allowed by law, waive presentment, demand for payment, and notice of dishonor. Upon any change in the terms of this Note, and unless otherwise expressly stated in writing, no party who signs this Note, whether as maker, guarantor, accommodation maker or endorser, shall be released from liability. All such parties agree that Lender may renew or extend (repeatedly and for any length of time) this loan or release any party or guarantor or collateral; or impair, fail to realize upon or perfect Lender's security interest in the collateral; and take any other action deemed necessary by Lender without the consent of or notice to anyone. All such parties also agree that Lender may modify this loan without the consent of or notice to anyone other than the party with whom the modification is made. The obligations under this Note are joint and several.

ILLINOIS INSURANCE NOTICE. Unless Borrower provides Lender with evidence of the insurance coverage required by Borrower's agreement with Lender, Lender may purchase insurance at Borrower's expense to protect Lender's interests in the collateral. This insurance may, but need not, protect Borrower's interests. The coverage that Lender purchases may not pay any claim that Borrower makes or any claim that is made against Borrower in connection with the collateral. Borrower may later cancel any insurance purchased by Lender, but only after providing Lender with evidence that Borrower has obtained insurance as required by their agreement. If Lender purchases insurance for the collateral, Borrower will be responsible for the costs of that insurance, including interest and any other charges Lender may impose in connection with the placement of the insurance, until the effective date of the cancellation or expiration of the insurance. The costs of the insurance may be added to Borrower's total outstanding balance or obligation. The costs of the insurance may be more than the cost of insurance Borrower may be able to obtain on Borrower's own.

PRIOR TO SIGNING THIS NOTE, BORROWER READ AND UNDERSTOOD ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS NOTE. BORROWER AGREES TO THE TERMS OF THE NOTE.

BORROWER ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS PROMISSORY NOTE.

Borrower:

CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY

By: COPY 
C A ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT of
CONSUMERS GAS COMPANY